

CITY OFFICES CLOSED

Veterans Day,
Nov. 11
Thanksgiving,
Nov. 25-26

Takoma Park NEWSLETTER

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful,
committed citizens can change the world..."
Margaret Mead (1901-1978)

TRASH HOLIDAYS

Thurs., Nov. 11 trash
collected Fri., Nov. 12
Thurs., Nov. 25 trash
collected Wed., Nov. 24;
Fri., Nov. 26 trash col-
lected Sat., Nov. 27

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www.takomaparkmd.gov

NOVEMBER 2010

Piney Branch Park Renovation Finally Underway

After 10 years of planning, major renovations to the park behind Piney Branch Elementary School are about to be underway. The Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission (M-NCPPC) property will be under construction by early November, and should be completed within a year, according to Ellen Masciocchi, a land planner with M-NCPPC.

At a City Council meeting Oct. 4, Masciocchi and landscape architect Linda Komes presented the final park plans to councilmembers. Recognizing the time it took to get this far, Masciocchi said, "It's been a long haul but I think you'll really like what you're going to see."

Delays were due to the many elements and various entities involved in the \$2.3 million project, which required coordination with the Public Arts Trust, the City Council and staff, the Center for Watershed Protection and two schools. Stormwater management required extensive work, and planners met several times with residents as well.

When it is finished, the park will include a number of new and improved features, including:

- Two 20-foot stainless steel tree sculptures crafted by local artist Judy Sutton Moore, flanking a pathway up to the park from the Grant Avenue access point
- A hiking path that loops around the property

RENOVATION
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International Walk to School Day

Children from Piney Branch Elementary School, led by Principal Bertram Generette, joined others from across the county as they walked to school October 6, some of thousands of children participating in International Walk to School Day. Takoma Park Police Chief Ronald Ricucci spoke to students here and at Takoma Park Elementary School about walking to school safely.

Other participating schools included East Silver Spring, where U.S. Department of Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood, Lt. Governor Anthony Brown and County Executive Ike Leggett attended, and Rolling Terrace Elementary, where mounted park police escorted the children. These events, organized locally by Safe Routes to School, underscored the impact such a simple act can make on good health and the environment.

Photo by Renee Patrick

Crossroads Market Promotes Local Food for Local People

BY VIRGINIA MYERS

October was truly a harvest month at the Crossroads Farmer's Market at the Takoma Langley Crossroads. Not only were farmer's tables laden with pumpkins and sweet potatoes and freshly picked apples, market administrators gathered in new funding that will not only allow its crucial services for low-income families to thrive, but will help build similar programs throughout the state.

On a sunny market day in October, state, county and city officials gathered to recognize the pioneering role the Crossroads market has taken in getting fresh fruits and vegetables to disadvantaged local residents. USDA Undersecretary for Food and Nutrition, Kevin Concannon, announced a \$50,724 grant from the USDA Farmers Market Promotion Program that will facilitate Crossroads mentoring for other Maryland markets trying to launch similarly effective programs.

The money will also help pay for the existing electronic benefits transfer system (a debit card-like system) that allows people who use government subsidized food programs — (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), the Spe-



USDA Undersecretary for Food and Nutrition, Kevin Concannon, joined Rosa Sanchez at the Crossroads Farmers Market last month to see just how successful this market has become. Sanchez has pioneered a model outreach effort to enroll people in the SNAP food subsidy program at the market. Concannon handles SNAP outreach on a national level and was drawn to the Crossroads through Sanchez' work.

Photo by Nessa Richman

CROSSROADS MARKET
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Environmental Recommendations Reviewed for Feasibility, Action

BY VIRGINIA MYERS

One of the top recommendations of the Task Force for Environmental Action is to hire a sustainability coordinator.

That would be because the Task Force's report, completed earlier this year and currently under review by the City Council, has so many recommendations, it will take a full-time employee to pursue them all. Among them: pooling resources to buy clean energy, creating incentives to minimize trash, purchasing street lights from PEPCO in order to upgrade them to more energy-efficient models and establishing stations with bags to pick up pet waste.

The 89-page report, with more than 50 separate items to consider, is one of the most thorough documents, City Manager Barbara Matthews told City Council, she has ever seen from a resident committee.

While that high praise may be appreciated, members of TFEA are more concerned with whether their recommendations will get beyond the page and make it into city policy. Working toward that end, City Council has spent two sessions and has scheduled a third, on November 8, to review staff input and recommendations for each line of the document, considering which proposals are do-able and, in this economy, affordable.

The Task Force, made up of 16 volunteers, took seven months to complete the report. Its recommendations are divided into nine categories: city operations and programs, air quality, buildings, climate change, energy, habitat, storm water, transportation and waste. Twelve of the recommendations are listed as high priorities (see below).

Each of the recommendations is rated with a decision matrix, to illustrate which might be most practical. The matrix includes TFEA's estimation of impact, cost, feasibility, geographic impact (i.e. which areas of the city and surrounding area would be affected), time frame and other considerations.

As City Council reviews staff input on the report, budgetary constraints have been a major hindrance, keeping enthusiasm for what would otherwise be popular

TASK FORCE
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PRE-SORT STANDARD
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ECRWSS POSTAL CUSTOMER

Mayor & Council
7500 Maple Ave.
Takoma Park, MD 20912

CITY COUNCIL AND COMMITTEE CALENDAR*

Monday, November 1 – City Council meeting, 7:30 p.m. (CC Auditorium)

Thursday, November 4 - Emergency Preparedness Committee meeting, 8:30 a.m. (CC Hydrangea Room)

Monday, November 8 – City Council meeting, 7:30 p.m. (CC Auditorium)

Monday, November 8 - Recreation Committee meeting, 7 p.m. (CC Hydrangea Room)

Tuesday, November 9 - Tree Commission meeting, 6:30 p.m. (CC Lilac Room)

Tuesday, November 9 - Facade Advisory Board, 7 p.m. (CC Hydrangea Room)

Tuesday, November 9 - Nuclear Free Takoma Park Committee meeting, 7:30 p.m. (CC Rose Room)

Thursday, November 11 - City Offices Closed for the Veterans Day Holiday

Monday, November 15 – City Council meeting, 7:30 p.m. (CC Auditorium)

Tuesday, November 16 - Washington Adventist Hospital Land Use Committee meeting, 7:30 p.m. (CC Lilac Room)

Monday, November 22 – City Council meeting, 7:30 p.m. (CC Auditorium)

Tuesday, November 23 - Arts and Humanities Commission meeting, 7:30 p.m. (CC Hydrangea Room)

Thursday, November 25 - City Offices Closed for the Thanksgiving Holiday

Friday, November 26 - City Offices Closed for the Thanksgiving Holiday

Monday, November 29 - City Council meeting, 7:30 p.m. (CC Auditorium)

*For the most up to date information, check www.takomapark-md.gov/clerk/agenda/. Most meetings are held in the Takoma Park Community Center – Sam Abbott Citizens' Center, 7500 Maple Avenue (CC). Individuals interested in receiving a weekly Council agenda and calendar update by e-mail should contact the City Clerk at 301-891-7267 or clerk@takomagov.org.

The City of Takoma Park is committed to ensuring that individuals with disabilities are able to fully participate in public meetings. Anyone planning to attend a Takoma Park public meeting or public hearing, and who wishes to receive auxiliary aids, services, or accommodations is invited to contact the City Clerk at 301-891-7267, at least 48 hours in advance, at the telephone number listed in the notice or through the Maryland Relay Service (1-800-735-2258 TTY/Voice).

Visit with the Mayor

Mayor Bruce Williams welcomes community input and invites you to meet with him during his regular hours on Tuesdays: by appointment from 2-5 p.m., with walk-ins from 5-7 p.m. To schedule a meeting, contact Peggy Washington at 301-891-7230 or by email at peggyew@takomagov.org.



Bruce Williams

City Council Action*

*Only negative votes and abstentions are noted. For additional information, contact the City Clerk at clerk@takomagov.org.

September 27 – Regular Meeting

Resolution 2010-56 was adopted, requesting the General Assembly to allow Class B Off-Sale Alcoholic Beverage Licenses to be available in Takoma Park. Voting no: Seamens

First Reading Ordinance 2010-44 was accepted, authorizing the installation of a speed hump on the 100 block of Sherman Avenue. Voting no: Schultz

First Reading Ordinance 2010-45 was accepted, authorizing the installation of a speed hump on the 200 block of Grant Avenue

Second Reading Ordinance 2010-40 was adopted, authorizing Fiscal Year 2011 Budget Amendment No. 1

First Reading Ordinance 2010-45 was accepted, authorizing Fiscal Year 2011 Stormwater Fund Budget Amendment No. 1

Resolution 2010-57 was adopted, appointing the following individuals to the Takoma Junction Task Force: Hailu L. Aichehi, Lorig Charkoudian, William Coulter, Kay Daniels-Cohen, Steve Dubb, James DiLuigi, Megan Gallagher, Rosalind Grigsby, Seth Grimes, Andrew Kelemen, Howard Kohn, Linette Lander, Katrina Oprisko, Lorraine Pearsall, Jennifer Sisane, Susan Robb, John Salmen, Roger Schlegel, Jeffrey M. Trunzo, Ellen M. Zavian

The consent agenda was adopted. It consisted of:

Resolution 2010-58 appointing Franca Brilliant, Shari Daniels, Julie Evans, Joy Jones, Jacqueline Schick, and Sarah Slegers to the Small Community Grant Review Committee

Resolution 2010-59 appointing Robert M. Anderson, Patricia Anne Murphy, and Michael W. Richards to the Ethics Commission

Resolution 2010-60 appointing Elizabeth A. Strickler to the Tree Commission

October 4 – Special Session

First Reading Ordinance 2010-47 was accepted, authorizing reimbursement to the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission for demolition of 6502 Sligo Mill Road

Second Reading Ordinance 2010-45 was adopted, authorizing Fiscal Year 2011 Stormwater Fund Budget Amendment No. 1

Single Reading Ordinance 2010-48 was adopted, approving the purchase of a street sweeper

October 11 – Regular Meeting

Second Reading Ordinance 2010-44 was adopted, authorizing the installation of a speed hump on the 100 block of Sherman Avenue. Voting no: Schultz

Second Reading Ordinance 2010-45 was adopted, authorizing the installation of a speed hump on the 200 block of Grant Avenue

Second Reading Ordinance 2010-47 was adopted, authorizing reimbursement to the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission for demolition of 6502 Sligo Mill Road

Resolution 2010-61 was adopted, endorsing Community Development Grant Program projects

Resolution 2010-62 was adopted, ratifying a collective bargaining agreement with AFSCME

Resolution 2010-63 was adopted, supporting Community Investment Tax Credits for Rebuilding Together – Montgomery County

Resolution 2010-64 was adopted, supporting Montgomery County's Ambulance Reimbursement Fee and urging voters to vote "For" on the referendum



Dedication Belle Ziegler Park Sunday, November 14 1 p.m.

The newly named Belle Ziegler Park (formerly Jeque Park) will be dedicated on Sunday, November 14. Please join the Mayor and others at for a dedication of the park and unveiling of the new historical marker at 1 p.m. Following the brief ceremony, there will be refreshments in the park. Belle Ziegler Park is located between Takoma, Albany and Buffalo Avenues in Ward 1.



Official Notice of Council Action on Speed Hump Petitions

On October 11, 2010, the City Council voted to authorize the installation of one or more speed humps on the 100 block of Sherman Avenue and the 200 block of Grant Avenue. The Grant Avenue installation will be delayed until after reconstruction of Grant Avenue.

Attest: Jessie Carpenter, City Clerk



Volunteer Needed to Represent Takoma Park on the Montgomery County Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Commemorative Committee

The Committee advises the County Executive on plans for the annual Montgomery County program held in observance of the birthday of Martin Luther King, Jr. Takoma Park has a position for one member and one alternate member on the Committee. Contact Jessie Carpenter (301-891-7267 or JessieC@takomagov.org) for information.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO SERVE ON COUNCIL APPOINTED BOARDS, COMMITTEES, AND COMMISSIONS

There are positions for Takoma Park residents available on many City boards, commissions, and committees. Please consider volunteering to serve. Additional information can be found at www.takomaparkmd.gov/clerk/committees or contact the City Clerk for more information (301-891-7267 or Clerk@takomagov.org).

**Arts and Humanities
Commission**
(vacancies)

**Commission on
Landlord-Tenant
Affairs**
(vacancy)

**Takoma Park Board of
Elections**
(vacancies)

**Nuclear-Free Takoma
Park Committee**
(vacancies)

Personnel Appeal Board
(vacancy)

Recreation Committee
(vacancies)

**Washington Adventist
Hospital Land Use
Committee**
(vacancies)

Ethics Commission
(vacancies)

**Emergency
Preparedness**
(vacancies)

Family Tradition Continues at New Firehouse

By JOY JONES

Teddy started it all.

In a family of five boys, it turns out the youngest was the one to set a family tradition.

Sixteen-year-old Teddy Jarboe joined the Takoma Park Volunteer Fire Department as a junior fireman in 1956, and by the end of 1958, he'd recruited his four brothers, his father and his uncle to join up as well; later, his cousin Mike joined the clan. That makes eight Jarboes who were active members in the TPVFD. Most have passed away, but Jimmy, who is 72, and Bobby, 74, still volunteer. Teddy went on to join the Montgomery County Fire Department, and now lives in Orlando; Mike lives in Northern Virginia.

According to Life Member and Past TPVFD President Bob Jarboe, one of the strongest motivations to join and stay with the Department was family pride in performing community service. Keeping Takoma Park safe through fire fighting became a part of the Jarboe family identity. "We knew what we were doing was important," says Bob. "All of us had this same feeling of wanting to get involved and to be of real service to the community we grew up in."

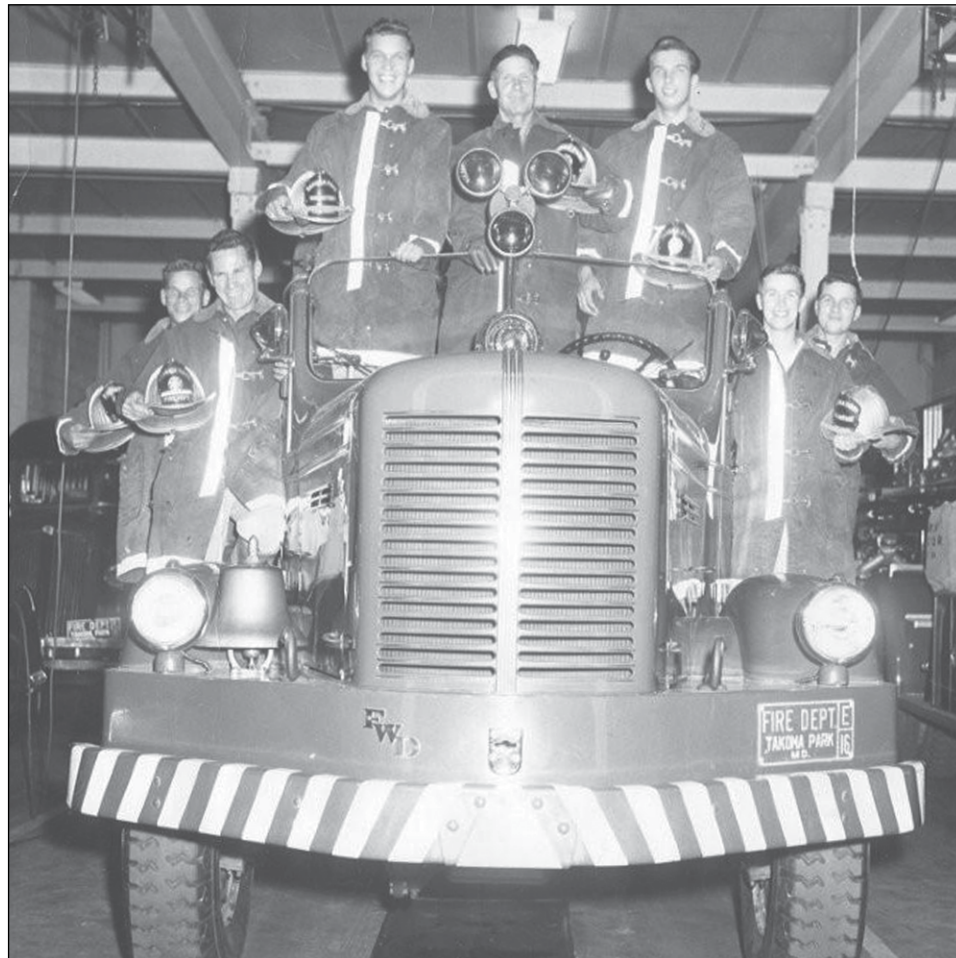
The firefighters became a part of the community in many ways. "We visited schools and other community organizations promoting fire safety and prevention and building rapport with local citizens," says Chief Jimmy Jarboe, who, like his brother, Teddy (who was chief at the Kensington Volunteer Fire Department), is still called chief (though he officially stepped down in 2009).

The Jarboes and other firefighters became fixtures at the basketball games and roller skating events at the old firehouse, and ran an annual 24-hour softball tournament to raise money for muscular dystrophy. They taught "Stop, drop and roll!" to elementary school classes, distributed holiday dinners to needy families during holidays, collected Toys for Tots at the firehouse, and Jimmy still teaches babysitting preparation classes. These activities were personally very rewarding, says Bob, "especially when directly helping families with children...you could tell they were having a tough time and needed the help."

"We were proud to belong to the Department and to wear the uniform...and as firefighters, we were happy to get respect from the community," says Jimmy.

Dangerous business

Pride and respect, however, did not diminish the dangers or stresses of the job, not only for the Jarboe men but for their



In June 1959, seven Jarboe men had signed up to fight fires for the TPVFD. From left, Bill Jarboe, his uncle, Steve Jarboe, brother Jim Jarboe, father Alfred J. (A.J.) Jarboe, brother Ted Jarboe, brother Bob Jarboe and brother John Jarboe. Cousin Mike Jarboe joined later.

Photo courtesy of the Jarboe family

families. Bob and Jim Jarboe turn sober as they remember times when being volunteer firefighters in their own community could break their hearts. "It was really hard when you went on a call only to discover that you knew the person who died in the fire or in the accident," says Jimmy.

Bob recalls a particularly dangerous gas station fire in 1960, at the corner of Tulip and Carroll, the current site of Takoma Old Town Auto Service: the Exxon gas station there was spewing flames out the top of the building, and the apartment building beside it was ablaze as well. No one was hurt, but there was a lot of structural damage. Another memorable blaze was one of the city's biggest: in 1970, Columbia Hall, at Flower and Carroll Avenues, was destroyed by fire. And in 1960, a multiple-alarm fire burned all night and destroyed the toy store that once was located on Laurel Avenue, between the old Safeway and the barber shop.

Civil unrest in D.C. brought a different kind of challenge, when the volunteers joined Washington forces to fight fires that erupted following the 1968 assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Amidst rocks and gunfire, Jimmy remembers: "It

was hard when you were faced with anger or hostility at the scene of the emergency when all you wanted to do was help."

Thankfully, the Jarboes say ("knock on wood"), the Department has experienced no serious injuries or fatalities among its ranks.

Family Time

On the lighter side, the brothers have bittersweet memories of holiday dinners and family celebrations abruptly interrupted by emergency calls. They recount one Thanksgiving dinner when the Jarboe men were called to duty just as the meal was being served; Jim and Bob still remember "that look" from the women in the family as they all got up to leave their extravagant home-cooked meal on the table.

Indeed, being a TPVFD family was sometimes difficult, recalls the Jim's wife Barbara Jarboe, because you never knew when the call would come and for how long the men would be gone. "It was something you had to get used to," she says with a laugh.

The men found a sort of second family at the fire station. They played basketball and volleyball in the gym, and pinochle

card games upstairs, talking about their lives and families, sometimes washing their cars; they shared and cooked meals together as well. "It was a home away from home," says Jimmy.

The Jarboes are quick to emphasize that theirs was and is not the only family with a tradition of service. The very first professional Takoma Park fire chief, Melvin McBride, also had a son in the department back in the late 1940s and early 1950s. Through the years there have been many others, including the Willey, Rhan, Collins, Fiske, West, Peppel, LaScola, Parsly and Baker families, that had multiple members serving the Department, simultaneously or in succession. Today the tradition continues with a father-daughter team at the TPVFD, Steve and Sherry Novik.

Then and Now

As the new Takoma Park stationhouse is dedicated and comes into service (opening ceremonies were Oct. 29), Bob and Jimmy Jarboe also reflect on how things have changed over time. For example, although the population of Takoma Park has remained stable in numbers at about 17,000 residents, it is now extremely diverse, prompting changes in training (job-specific phrases are taught in different languages now), the inclusion of women on the force (the new stationhouse has separate accommodations for males and females) and new technologies. "There was no 911 service, no pagers and no firehouse sprinkler systems when we started out," remembers Jim. Costs have gone up, too: in 1949 a ladder truck cost \$29,000; today it's close to \$1 million. Outfitting a firefighter in the 1950s cost \$100; that cost has risen to \$2,500.

But one thing hasn't changed, and that's the need for new individuals and their families to become members of the TPVFD. Most people are not aware of all the work it takes just to clean fire and rescue vehicles and equipment and return them to service capacity after a fire, something volunteers can and are needed to do. Now, the Jarboes point out, recruits for TPVFD receive the same training as professional firefighters, and volunteer departments like the TPVFD are actively recruiting men and women to serve as fire fighters, EMTs and in an administrative capacity.

As Chief Jim and Past President Bob Jarboe themselves exemplify, commitment and dedication to public and community service are at the core of the volunteer firefighter experience. They are both proud and humbled that so many in their family have had the privilege to give back to the Takoma Park community through TPVFD service.



THE TAKOMA PARK NEWSLETTER

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Name, address and telephone number must accompany all submitted material. Pursuant to City Council Resolution No.

1992-36 of June 8, 1992 that sets forth the editorial guidelines of the Newsletter, the Editor reserves the right to edit all submitted copy for length, clarity, style, spelling and grammar.

Published material containing opinions does not necessarily reflect the views of the Newsletter or the City of Takoma Park.

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The Newsletter is printed on recycled-content paper.



Earlier Deadline for Gardening Grants

These before and after shots tell the story best: the New Hampshire Avenue Gardening and Beautification grant program has already made a difference on the Avenue.

The program, which supports the creation of public vegetable gardens, decorative flower plots, tree plantings or any similar green activity that adds life to the street, continues this year. Although applications are accepted and awarded on a rolling basis, to be considered for funding, grant applications must be received no later than January 31, 2011 (much earlier than in previous years). All projects must be completed before the end of the fiscal year (June 30, 2011).

City planners are big fans of the gardening grants, which may be funded up to \$8,000 by the city. Beautifying New Hampshire Avenue is an effective way to reclaim this crucial corridor as part of the public realm, they say, and having volunteers ap-



Before and after pictures show the improvements already rendered by gardening grants along New Hampshire Avenue.

Photo by Carol King Woodward

ply and then participate in construction underscores Takoma Park as a place that belongs to all residents.

The gardens pictured here are located along New Hampshire Avenue at Sligo Creek between Erskine Street and Myrtle Avenue, and were built by volunteers from Hillwood Manor.

City planners are looking for energetic organizers for new gardens, and can pro-

vide locations for projects if desired. Or, residents can volunteer to help out with several existing garden projects. For more information about applications or volunteering, contact Paul Grenier at pgrenier@takomagov.org, call 301 891-7220 or download info from www.thenewave.com/explore/parks-and-nature/gardening-greening-grant.



**BY MOSES A. WILDS, JR.
LANDLORD-TENANT
COORDINATOR**

A tenant contacted the Mailbox and wants to know how she and her apartment building neighbors may start a tenants association, the minimum number of building tenants who must participate and whether the landlord has to approve the organization and its activities.

In accordance with Section 6.16.030 of the Takoma Park Landlord-Tenant Law, tenants have the right to meet within tenant organizations, to meet and confer, through representatives of their own choosing and to engage in activities for the purpose of mutual aid and protection. This section further notes that tenants and tenant associations have the right of assembly in the building meeting rooms and other areas suitable for meetings within a rental facility during reasonable hours and following reasonable notice to the landlord for the purpose of conducting tenant organization meetings.

To officially register a tenant association with the city, the law requires that a minimum of one third of the occupied rental units in a rental facility be members of the tenant association. A registered tenant association has standing to file complaints with the Commission on Landlord-Tenant Affairs on behalf of the tenants who are members of the association.

To assist tenants interested in establishing a tenant association, the city contracts with two experienced community organizers who help tenants form their associations, elect officers, and plan and implement activities to sustain the organizations' growth and development. To obtain the services of the community organizers and/or to obtain an application to register a tenant association, call 301-891-7222. Tenant Associations are required to re-register with the city every three years.

Although a landlord does not have to approve the formation or activities of a tenant association, part of the city's registration process is to inform the landlord that the association has been formed with a list of its members. A common goal of most tenant associations is to try to work with the landlord/owner for an improved rental facility.

Tenants or landlords having questions regarding the city's landlord-tenant law are requested to call 301-891-7215 and/or contact me at MosesW@takomagov.org.

Rebuilding Together Helps Those In Need

With winter on its way, home repair becomes a more essential element in keeping Montgomery County residents safe from the cold—but many can't afford the simple repairs they need. Rebuilding Together Montgomery County is a non-profit organization dedicated to bringing volunteers and communities together to help.

The organization provides free home repair services to eligible low-income households. Services can include home modi-

fications for elderly and disabled people to prevent falls, weatherization repairs to increase energy efficiency and various other repairs necessary to keep homeowners safe, warm and dry. Larger repairs such as roofs and HVAC systems can be tackled under the county's critical needs program.

Homeowner eligibility is based on income.

Although Rebuilding Together Montgomery County mainly serves the elderly, disabled, families with children and veterans, anyone who meets the income requirements and who is a homeowner in Montgomery County is eligible to apply. For more information and for homeowner and volunteer applications see www.rebuildingtogethermc.org or call 301-933-2700.

Getting an Education at the Montgomery County Housing Fair

BY BARBARA DE BOINVILLE

The Takoma Park Housing and Community Development Department recently joined dozens of other agencies at the Montgomery County Housing Fair and Financial Fitness Day at the Bohrer Park Activity Center in Gaithersburg, where 95 sponsors and exhibitors provided a plethora of information on housing in the county.

The October 2 event included housing providers, Realtors, banks, mortgage companies, nonprofits, and federal, state, county and municipal agencies who provided information about housing, money management and a wide range of other topics, including how to buy a used car without being taken for a ride (information provided at the Office of Consumer Protection booth) and how to find subsidized child care and reduced-cost tutoring services (information provided at the Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services booth). Clowns, face painters, robots and stilt walkers provided entertainment, and vendors provided pizza, ice cream and popcorn.

Lenders from PNC, Chase, Freddie Mac and Fannie Mae explained financing and refinancing options in one classroom; in another, housing counselors from HomeFree USA, the Housing Initiatives Partnership, the Latino Economic Development Corporation and Asian-American Homeownership Counseling Inc. educated homeowners about foreclosure prevention. Prospective home buyers and other county residents could also receive credit reports and learn how to interpret their credit scores.

Some 1,200 people attended the fair, gathering tote bags full of information on free services in the county. Families looking for affordable rental housing learned where to turn for assistance. Persons out of work learned about the job readiness resources provided by nonprofit employment agencies in the area. Young children flocked to the money games section and won prizes



Jean Kerr, a housing specialist for Takoma Park, gives advice at the city's Housing and Community Development Department information table, during Montgomery County's Housing and Financial Fitness Day.

Photo by Linda Walker

for answering questions like, "What U.S. coin equals two nickels?" The interactive computerized "financial fitness" games for teenagers posed tougher questions about predatory lending and negative net income.

Ten fairgoers each won \$400 toward their rent or mortgage—one said he will use the money to help pay his rent on the Takoma Park apartment where he lives with his wife and two children.

The Housing Fair is held annually and is open to all county residents.

“We Are Takoma” presents the Billy Coulter Band

Friday, November 19

8 p.m.

Takoma Park Community Center Auditorium

**7500 Maple Avenue,
Takoma Park**

FREE EVENT

Washington D.C. singer/songwriter Billy Coulter's distinctive style blurs the line between roots rock and power pop. Drawing on influences as varied as Bob Dylan and Squeeze, he's developed an organic sound that seems familiar but is definitely new.

In just a few years Coulter has made a name for himself, with his unique songwriting and vocal ability winning him the 2008 Album of the Year (Dose), Song of the Year (Party of One), Roots Rock Recording of the Year and, for the second year in a row, Roots Rock Vocalist Washington Area Music (WAMMIE) Awards. His inspired and energetic performances have graced the stages at some of the region's top venues and festivals including Rams Head, Birchmere, Strathmore, Barns of Wolf Trap, IOTA, Celebrate Fairfax and more.



He and his band have also supported national acts such as Johnny Winter, Kelly Willis, Phil Vassar, Taylor Hicks and others. Coulter's latest release is "TRACE: Live at Goose Creek."

Market, Façade Improvement Funded

Minority Health Care, Youth Empowerment, Edinburgh House declined

City Council voted October 11 to fund two of five projects submitted for funding through the U.S. Department of Housing's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program. Council recommended that the Crossroads Farmers Market receive \$25,000 for a low-income food assistance program called Fresh Checks, and that façade improvements along the New Hampshire Avenue corridor and other commercial districts within Takoma Park be funded with another \$100,000. The County Council must give final approval of the projects endorsed by the City Council before funds are dispersed.

Although the city is not sure how much will be allocated to Takoma Park, staff is assuming that not less than \$125,000 will be made available.

The Crossroads Farmers Market, which sets up every Wednesday at Takoma Langley Crossroads (just south of University Boulevard off New Hampshire Avenue), would use the CDBG money to fund Fresh Checks. This program doubles food subsidies such as the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC), and the Farmers Market Nutrition Program, for low-income families, so they have more to spend on the fresh fruits and vegetables available at the market. The market also supports

the local farmers who sell produce at the market (see related story, page 1).

This is the third and last year the Crossroads Market will receive CDBG funds for this program, since there is a federal limitation to the number of times one organization can be awarded grants for the same purpose.

The façade funding will go to eligible businesses on a matching funds basis. In this continuation of the city's commercial façade easement program, matching funds of up to \$10,000 would be available for individual storefront improvements in all but the Old Town and Ethan Allen Gateway commercial areas (since these areas are located outside of CDBG-eligible areas).

No projects have yet been identified for the façade improvement program, which is managed by the city, but Sara Daines, Housing and Community Development Department director, anticipates applications will come in once the program is finalized.

The Crossroads Farmers Market project would be expected to benefit 1,875 households; the commercial façades would be expected to benefit ten storefronts. More information, including total budgets for each project, percentage of direct benefit and project partners, is available at takomaparkmd.gov/council on the October 11 City Council meeting agenda.

CDBG Funding will be available later in fiscal year 2012.



Takoma Park Arts & Humanities News
celebrating the creative spirit of our community

Third Thursday Poetry Reading

Poets Susan Okie, Heather Banks, Freda Denis-Cooper, Stewart Hickman and Madona LeBlanc are featured in this month's reading at the Takoma Park Auditorium, 7500 Maple Avenue. Please join us on Thursday, November 18 at 7:30 p.m. to hear their work.

Rita Elsner Exhibit

"In my latest series of drawings, I continue to work with subconscious imagery while adding in a continuum of aerial views referenced from photographs that I've taken over the years," says artist Rita Elsner. "Viewing the earth from above allows divisions along political, economic, and cultural lines to fall away, leaving simply an image of our one collective home. Using this perspective helps to convey my belief that we humans draw from a common pool of thoughts and dreams - that we make up one taproot growing through this point in history." Elsner's exhibit - RENDERED - can be viewed through November 27 in the Atrium Gallery.

The Atrium Gallery, located on the main level of the Takoma Park Community Center, is open Monday through Thursday, from 8:30 a.m. to 9:30 p.m., Fridays until 10 p.m. and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Upcoming Concerts

A number of concerts will be offered this month at the Takoma Park Auditorium including The Billy Coulter Band on Friday, November 19 and A Singer-Songwriter Tribute to Van Morrison on Saturday, November 20. Check them out on our Face Book and Twitter pages!

Holiday Art Sale - Vendor Applications Available

Interested in participating in the fifth annual Holiday Art Sale? Items offered for sale must be created and produced by the individual artist or crafter. Past sales have included paintings, photography, pottery, jewelry, textiles, furniture and glass. Application forms available online at www.takomaparkmd.org. Deadline November 16. For more information, contact Rob Rudick at robrudick@yahoo.com or at 301-270-2323.

For information on these and other activities sponsored by the Takoma Park Arts and Humanities Commission, please contact Sara Anne Daines at 301-891-7224, or SaraD@takomagov.org or check online at www.takomaparkmd.gov



Lions in the Community

Susan Matthew of the Eyeglass Collection and Recycling Center, receives 700 pairs of eyeglasses from Pat Van Ness of the North Silver Spring Lions and Keith Van Ness of the Takoma Park Lions Club. The Lions Clubs collected the used eyeglasses from the community, and will send them overseas to families who need them.

November

R e c r e a t i o n

Kindermusik ABC Music and Me - Sing a Story.

Ages 4-6

Children will be introduced to the world of opera, with a tale of missing tail feathers. They'll witness the hustle and bustle that happens backstage before an opera, hear examples of solos and duets, practice pre-music reading skills by singing simple two-note patterns, and sing and play a variety of musical instruments. Home kit includes home CD and magazine style family guide. Four weeks. Maximum eight, minimum five.

Rose Room, TP Community Center
Tuesdays, 4 - 4:45 p.m.

Nov. 16 - Dec. 14

TP residents \$60

Non-residents \$70

No class Nov. 23.

Builder Bee

Ages 18 months - 6 years

A family program that uses the process of architectural model building to develop problem-solving skills and encourage learning in a fun and exploratory atmosphere. Classes build on previous sessions to create a final project you can take home. Each session is based on developmental stages and set skills. Parent/guardian participation is part of the learning experience. Creator Amanda Faye Dowd, a Takoma Park resident, applies skills in conceptual design by teaching to your child's natural skills, and encouraging the process of sequential and spatial communication. A \$24 materials fee is due to the instructor on the first day of class. Maximum 12, minimum six.

Lilac Room, TP Community Center

Level 1, 18 months - 3 years

Mondays, 10 - 11 a.m., Nov. 15 - Dec. 20

Level 2, 3 - 6 years

Fridays, 10 - 11 a.m., Nov. 5 - Dec. 17

TP residents \$60/session

Non-residents \$70/session

No class on Nov. 12 and 26.

Wee Love Math

Ages 2 - 4

This age-appropriate introduction to math concepts will explore counting, addition and subtraction, odd and even numbers, opposites, matching, doubling numbers, comparing sizes, amounts, weights and more. All of this is learned through play, stories, project activities and teaching tools such as Cuisenaire rods. A parent or caregiver should accompany each child. Fee includes materials. Six weeks. Instructor Amaya Lambert. Maximum 12, minimum six.

Lilac Room, TP Community Center
Tuesdays, 9:30 - 10 a.m.

Or Tuesdays, 11:30 a.m. - noon

Nov. 9 - Dec. 14

TP residents \$65/session

Non-residents \$75/session

Rookie "Sports"

Ages 3-5

The goal of this program is to provide the opportunity for each child to develop motor skills and nurture his/her growth socially and emotionally through teamwork and good sportsmanship. Co-sponsored by the Montgomery County Recreation Department. Six weeks. Maximum 15, minimum eight. Instructor Jeremy Rhones.

Saturdays, 10:45 - 11:45 a.m.

Oct. 30 - Dec. 11

TP Recreation Center, New Hampshire Ave.

\$35

No class on Nov. 27.

Fun Day Program

Ages 5 - 12

The Fun Day Program offers field trips on scheduled whole day school closings and activities and performances on scheduled half day closings. Participants will meet at the Community Center, 7500 Maple Avenue. On half days only, students attending Takoma Park Elementary will be picked up at their school and children attending Piney Branch Elementary will be picked up in the hallway by the pool by a Recreation staff



After school street hockey games give these Takoma Park kids a great way to blow off some steam.

Photo by Debra Haiduven

member. On full days pack a lunch. On half days, bring a snack. Trips, activities and performers are subject to change. Space is limited, sign up early.

Thursday, 1 - 5:30 p.m.

Nov. 11

Imagi-mime

TP resident \$25

Non-resident \$35

Friday, 1 - 5:30 p.m.

Nov. 12

Turley the Magician

TP resident \$25

Non-resident \$35

Dungeons and Dragons

Ages 9 - 18

Use your imagination and storytelling ability in this classic fantasy role-playing game. Roll dice to cast spells and battle monsters. Creativity and cooperation help the group 'survive.' Taught by the library's own Dave Burbank. Maximum 30, minimum 15. Four weeks.

Lilac and Rose Rooms, TP Community Center

Thursdays, 4 - 6 p.m.

Nov. 18 - Dec. 16

TP residents \$35

Non-residents \$45

No class on Nov. 25.

Open Gym

Ages 13-18

Open gym is not just for basketball. Double Dutch ropes, flag football and other game supplies are provided. So come join us from 6 - 9 p.m. during the dates listed below.

Piney Branch Elementary School

First Wednesday, third Friday and fourth Tuesdays:

Nov. 3, 19 and 23

Free

Face-off Floor Hockey

Ages 9 - 11

The participants will be taught the rules and skills of the game. Each session will end with a scrimmage to practice the skills learned. A skills competition and game will conclude the program. Maximum 16, minimum 10. Seven weeks. Instructor Carey Antoszewski.

Piney Branch Elementary School Gym

7510 Maple Avenue

Mondays, 4 - 5 p.m.

Nov. 9 - Dec. 21

TP residents \$30

Non-residents \$40

Urban Science Explorers

Ages 14 -18

This series of workshops brings the science of the current status of earth and its atmosphere to teens. With the aid of "inquiry coaches," teens will create research squads that generate questions and perform Arctic Quest exercises as "mini expeditions." Arctic Quest: Enter the Cryosphere, is an official International Polar Year (IPY) education

RECREATION continues on page 7

Register for Youth Basketball League

The Takoma Park Winter Basketball League welcomes all kids grades K* - 8 to register for the upcoming season. Registration will run from September 1 through December 10, 2010.

*Must be 5 yrs old by January 8, 2011.

Registration Fees

Takoma Park Residents Fee: \$60

Non-Resident Registration Fee: \$70

Scholarship Opportunity

Scholarship Registration Fee: \$10

Scholarship opportunities are available to all Takoma Park Residents in need of assistance. This benefit is available to Takoma Park residents who can provide proof of enrollment in the Free or Reduced Meals program or similar financial assistance program.

For more information about the Takoma Park Recreation Department's Winter Basketball League or if you are interested in coaching please call (301) 891-7225, or visit www.takomaparkmd.gov/recreation.



RECREATION
continued from page 6

and public outreach activity for youth. It is offered through NASA’s Science Mission Directorate/Earth Science Division. Space is limited, advance registration required. Instructor Maia Carroll.

Rose Room, TP Community Center
Thursdays, 4:30 - 6:30 p.m.
Nov. 4, 18
Free

Teen Leadership Council (TLC)

Ages 13-18
The TP Recreation Department Teen Leadership Council is comprised of a group of diverse teenagers representing the youth voice of Recreation Department programs and activities. Participants assist in developing programs and services that benefit the City’s youth, strengthening relations between youth and their community through innovative leadership opportunities in recreation and service learning. The experience will provide opportunities to gain knowledge and skills that will prepare participants for college or future endeavors. Interested participants are required to complete an application and provide two letters of recommendation. Applications are available at the TPCommunityorRecreationCenters. The program kicks off with a “Get Acquainted” session on Saturday, Nov. 13, which is free with application.
For detailed information see www.takomaparkmd.gov/recreation or contact Faye Wright, Recreation Department *Teen Manager*, 301-891-7283.

Body Sculpting/Pilates with June

Ages 16 and over
This class incorporates light hand weights for strengthening and toning the arms, hips and thighs. Body Sculpting/Pilates focuses on integrating the entire body rather than exercising each body part separately. If you want your abdomen firm, your arms trim and toned then Body Sculpting/Pilates is for you! Co-sponsored by the Montgomery

County Recreation Department. Four week sessions. Maximum 25, minimum five. Instructor June Kimbrugh-Thornton. Students are required to *bring their own mat* and hand weights.

TP Recreation Center

Wednesdays, 6 – 7 p.m.
Nov. 10 – Dec. 1
\$50
No class Nov. 24.

Bollywood Dance Fun

Ages 16 and up
Get a workout and learn about the “Bollywood” culture of India’s Hindi-language film industry. Although Bollywood choreography originally drew from Indian classical and folk dance, other genres like jazz, hip hop and even belly dancing have entered the mix. Class will include a warm-up session, step combinations and upbeat choreography to popular Bollywood films. Instructor Laurel Victoria Gray.

Dance Studio, TP Community Center
Fridays, 7:30 – 8:30 p.m.
Nov. 5 - Dec. 14
TP residents \$60
Non-residents \$70
No class on Nov. 26.

Zumba

Ages 16 and older
Zumba fuses hypnotic Latin rhythms and easy-to-follow moves to create a one-of-a-kind fitness program. Achieve long-term benefits while experiencing an absolute blast in one exciting hour of calorie-burning, body-energizing movement. The routines feature interval training sessions where fast and slow rhythms and resistance training are combined to tone and sculpt your body while burning fat. Co-sponsored by the Montgomery County Recreation Department. Instructor Edurama.

TP Recreation Center, New Hampshire Ave.
Wednesdays, 6 – 7 p.m. and
Saturdays, 9:30 - 10:30 a.m.
Nov. 10 – Dec. 11

No class Nov. 24 and 27.
\$40

Collage

Ages 18 and older
Using a variety of collage and paper altering processes, students combine found and altered papers and lightweight three-dimensional materials. Principles of color and design will be presented, such as limiting the color palette, and the principles of design will be explored such as structure, balance, repetition, value and gradation. This class is suitable for beginners, as well as more experienced students. Basic materials will be provided (some personal or found collage elements may be desired to enhance the collage as well). There is a \$30 materials fee, paid directly to the instructor, due on the first day of class. Six weeks. Instructor Katie Dell Kaufman. Maximum 12, minimum seven.

Art Room, TP Community Center
Tuesdays, 11 a.m. – 2 p.m.
Nov. 16 – Dec. 21
TP residents \$205
Non-residents \$225

Drawing

Ages 16 and older
Develop your skills in representation, perspective, and proportion while experimenting with personally expressive mark making and color. Black and white, and color drawing materials, including both wet and dry media, will be presented. Instructor will provide still life, floral and interior set ups with lighting. This class is suitable for beginners, as well as more experienced students. All basic materials will be provided. There is a \$20 materials fee, paid directly to the instructor, due on the first day of each session. Instructor Katie Dell Kaufman. Six weeks. Maximum 12, minimum seven.

Art Room, TP Community Center
Wednesdays, 6 – 9 p.m.
Nov. 10 – Dec. 22
TP residents \$195
Non-residents \$205
No class on 11/24.

Drawing and Watercolor

Ages 11 – 14
Subjects will include still life, portrait, landscape (weather permitting) and floral studies. Beginning students welcome. The focus of the class is appropriate for students interested in developing a portfolio for entry into the Visual Art Center at Albert Einstein High School. Materials fee of \$25, paid directly to the instructor, will be due on the first day of class. Six weeks. Instructor Katie Dell Kaufman. Maximum 12, minimum seven.

Art Room, TP Community Center
Tuesdays, 3:15 – 5:15 p.m.
Nov. 16 – Dec. 21
TP residents \$135
Non-residents \$145

Felt Ornament Making

Ages 18 and older
Brighten up your holidays with a set of three handmade wool felt ornaments. Choose from a variety of designs and themes (winter, Christmas or Hanukkah). Perfect for display on your tree, mantle or window – or to give as a treasured gift. Learn basic embroidery stitches with plenty of hands-on help. A \$10 materials fee is due to the instructor on the first day of class. Four weeks. Maximum eight, minimum four. Instructor Karen Krueger.

Rose Room, TP Community Center
Saturdays, 1 – 3 p.m.
Nov. 20 – Dec. 18
TP residents \$40
Non-residents \$45
No class on Nov. 27.

Open Art Studio

Expand your art skills or learn new techniques in an open art studio with instructor Alice Sims. Be creative in a relaxed atmosphere. Registration is required, call 301-891-7280 to register.

Art Room, TP Community Center
11 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Nov. 8
Free

Silver Foxes
For Active Adults Over 55

Senior Day Buffet

This bi-monthly event offers a good game of bingo and an American food buffet from Old Country Buffet in Gaithersburg, for only \$7.95 plus tax. Those who can drive, please meet in the rear parking lot of the Community Center. If you need transportation, please call 301-891-7280, two days in advance to arrange for pickup at Maple View Apts., Franklin Apts., and Victory Tower only. Registration is required to participate, 301-891-7280.

Wednesday, 9 a.m. – 2 p.m.
Nov. 17
You pay for you meal

Table Tennis

Come play this fun, energetic game. A great way to improve eye-hand coordina-

tion. Helps to keep the body healthy and the mind sharp. Drop-in.

Game Room, TP Community Center
Mon. and Thurs. 11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m.
Sat. 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.
No cost.
No program on Nov. 11, 25.

Bingo

Come and try your luck. Win a prize. Ages 55 and older. Drop-in. Senior Room. No cost. Transportation provided for Victory Tower, Franklin Apts. and Maple View Apts. only. Call 301-891-7280, three days in advance for pick-up.

Senior Room, TP Community Center
Thursday, Nov. 18
12 – 2 p.m.

Brain Games

Lower your brain age and boost your memory, reasoning and creative thinking. Enjoy a variety of cognitive puzzle challenges and games. Most importantly, the goal is to have fun while doing something good for

you. Come and play! Drop-in. No registration is required.

Senior Room, TP Community Center
Tuesday, 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
Nov. 9, No cost.

Skin Cancer Basics

Come learn about America’s most common form of cancer and what you can do to help protect yourself and your loved ones. Presented by Adventist Health Care. Drop-in. No registration is required. For more information, call 301-891-7280.

Lilac Room, TP Community Center
12 – 1 p.m. Nov. 10
Free

Howard County Crafts Spectacular

Howard County Fairgrounds, West Friendship, Maryland
Several hundred crafters; all handcrafted items. A great opportunity to start your holiday shopping, or just browse for fun. Afterwards, we will board the bus and travel to the mall in Columbia, Maryland, where you

can choose from a variety of restaurants or the food court to have lunch. Enjoy more browsing and shopping at the mall. Bring spending money for lunch and shopping. Call 301-891-7280 to register.

Friday, Nov. 5
9 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.
deadline to register 11/3.
\$5 entry fee.

Festival of Wreaths, 13th Annual

Enjoy hundreds of uniquely decorated holiday wreaths. Sponsored by Carroll County Arts Council. Bring spending money for lunch at Baugher’s Family Restaurant, featuring homestyle cooking at affordable prices. They make their own homemade ice cream in over 18 varieties! Dress for comfort. Bring spending money for lunch. Call 301-891-7280 to register.

Carroll Arts Center, Westminster, MD
Friday, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.
Dec. 3
deadline to register 12/1 No cost

TAKOMA PARK LIBRARY CALENDAR

Community Circle Time

Every Tuesday
Two times: 10 a.m. OR 11 a.m.

Spanish Circle Time

Every Thursday
10:30 a.m. with Señora Geiza
Thanks to the Friends of the Library for
sponsoring this program.

Bedtime Stories

Monday, Nov. 1, 7 p.m.
Come in p.j.s, bring your teddy or other stuffed
favorites as we read some stories and sing
some songs in this half-hour program. Perfect
for babies, toddlers, preschoolers and their
grown-ups.

Friends Reading Group

Thursday, Nov. 4, 7:30 p.m.
Discussion of "The Brothers Karamazov" by
Fyodor Dostoevsky continues.
Community Center

Eaglebear Returns!

Monday, Nov. 8, 7 p.m.
Join us as Eaglebear and his family share
some stories, dances and songs from their
tribe. Thanks to the Friends of the Library for
sponsoring this program.

Mystery Spotlight

Tuesday, Nov. 9, 7:30 p.m.
Local mystery authors Tom Kaufman and Alison
Leotta discuss their work and sign copies of
their books. Community Center Auditorium.

Resume Coaching Lab

Wednesday, Nov. 10, 7:30 p.m.
This program featuring Gabe Heilig is aimed at
those seeking employment in the private sector.
Community Center, 7:30 p.m.
Registration limited.

French Circle Time

Saturday, Nov. 13
10:30 a.m. with Madame Marie
Thanks to the Friends of the Library for
sponsoring this program.

National Gaming Day

Saturday, Nov. 13
2-4 p.m.
Bring your creativity and join us for a session of
"Dungeons & Dragons."
Ages 8 up; parents are most welcome to play
too! Registration required.

Caldecott Club

Monday, Nov. 15 – 7 p.m.
Come read and discuss this year's Caldecott
Medal possibilities.
Best for ages 5 up; adults also welcome.
Registration required.

Friends of the Library Board Meeting

Tuesday, Nov. 16, 7:45 p.m.

Friends Reading Group

Thursday, Nov. 18, 7:30 p.m.

LIBRARY CALENDAR
continues on page 9



Illustration from Jerry Pinkney's "The Lion and the Mouse."

Picture Books are Still Family Favorites

BY KAREN MACPHERSON

For children's literature lovers, the headline of a recent "New York Times" article came as a shock: "Picture Books No Longer a Staple for Children." In the article, published Oct. 7, author Julie Bosman noted that the picture book "has been fading," a victim of both the economic downturn (picture books are costly) and parental pressure to have kids reading chapter books at an earlier age.

But the article looked only at publishers and bookstores, leaving out the place where many parents and children connect with picture books: the local public library. At the Takoma Park Maryland Library—as in many, if not most, public libraries around the country—picture books still account for one of our biggest circulation categories. Instead of paying up to \$18 each for a picture book, parents are instead checking them out for free from the library.

Yet Bosman did unfortunately get

it right when it comes to the issue of parents urging their kids to read chapter books at earlier ages. Even at our library, we have parents who want their three- and four-year-olds to read chapter book series like "The Magic Tree House" instead of picture books.

Is this necessarily a bad thing? No, but it's not necessarily the best thing for kids and reading, either. While we at the Takoma Park Maryland Library believe that it's up to parents to determine what their children read, parents themselves often need and welcome guidance as to the best reading choices.

That's definitely the case with picture books, which make a wonderfully rich reading experience for children long after they've made the jump to chapter books. For example, picture books are a mainstay of our regular library presentations for Piney Branch Elementary School fourth graders, who love the chance to delve into a subject through such a visual genre.

But picture books get a bad rap. Be-

cause they are children's first reading material, many adults think it's child's play to write (or illustrate) a picture book. But nothing could be further from the truth. A picture book is précis of an idea, a pared-down summary of a story; less is always more in a picture book. And as any writer or illustrator knows, it's much more challenging to write briefly, or to evoke rather than show something outright in an illustration.

Now, let's look specifically at picture book texts. If you ask any reading expert, they'll tell you that the vocabulary in many picture books is generally much more sophisticated than that in early chapter books or series books. The level of picture book vocabulary is definitely higher than most beginning readers, where the text is deliberately simple to make it easier for children learning to read.

But the text, of course, comprises

PICTURE BOOKS
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LIBRARY Briefs

EAGLEBEAR: Eaglebear -- aka Tomas Shash -- returns on Monday, Nov. 8 at 7 p.m. for his annual visit to Takoma Park. During the program, which is great for both kids and adults, Eaglebear and members of his family present songs, stories and dances of their Xicano and Apache cultures. Afterwards, participants can get a closer look at some of the drums, animal pelts and other artifacts that Eaglebear brings to teach others about his cultures. No registration necessary. Thanks to the Friends of the Takoma Park Maryland Library for sponsoring Eaglebear's visit.

CALDECOTT CLUB: Come read and discuss some of the possibilities for the 2011 Caldecott Medal. We'll meet once a month -- on Monday evenings -- in November and December to read together Caldecott possibilities and then discuss those books. At our December meeting, we'll vote on our favorite.

The actual 2011 Caldecott Medal winner will be announced by the American Library Association at its midwinter conference on Monday, Jan. 10 in San Diego. Children's Librarian Karen MacPherson will be there when the announcement is made, and will report back on her experience at our final Caldecott Club meeting on Monday, Jan. 31 at 7 p.m. We'll also get a chance then to compare how our choices stack up with the ALA's actual selections.

The Caldecott Club is open to children ages 5 up, their parents and any adults who are fans of children's picture books. Registration is required.

POETRY SELF-PORTRAIT: Kids ages 5 up are invited to join us on Tuesday, Nov. 30 at 7 p.m. for a fun, hands-on workshop with local poets Elizabeth Rees and Rosanne Singer. Liz and Rosanne will lead participants in using movement, brainstorming, writing and art to find interesting ways of thinking and describing themselves. Some participants might imagine the animal they act like, or the desert that says something about their personality, or the color that captures their spirit. At the end of the workshop, participants will create a piece that combines words and art to address the question, "Who am I?"

NATIONAL GAMING DAY: The American Library Association has designated Saturday, Nov. 13, as National Gaming Day, a day when libraries work to nurture community ties through the fun of playing games.

LIBRARY BRIEFS
continues on page 9

Takoma Park Community Center 7500 Maple Ave., Takoma Park, MD 20912
For more information please call the library at 301-891-7259 or visit us at www.cityoftakomapark.org/library.

"Teflon Defendant" Arrested by Takoma Park Police

BY RICK HENRY

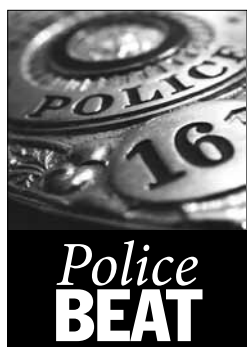
To the outside eye, the circumstances surrounding the arrest of Corey A. Moore on Sherman Avenue on Sept. 25 are extraordinary: police on routine patrol stop to question a person walking down the street with what appeared to be an open bottle of alcohol; the suspect throws the bottle at the officer and flees; officer pursues and the suspect throws a package into a dumpster; officer catches the suspect, returns to the dumpster and finds that the package contains more than 544 grams of cocaine with a street value of \$50,000.

However, for Takoma Park Police Chief Ronald Ricucci, a law enforcement veteran, the incident, while certainly unique, is not surprising.

"I worked narcotics for 13 years and many times it was something nondescript and unrelated to the criminal activity – like an accident or a fire at someone's house – that led to a big arrest," said Ricucci.

And this was a big arrest, for two reasons.

First, there is the amount of drugs seized, making this arrest possibly the city's biggest ever drug bust. In addition to the initial package of cocaine found in the dumpster, police executed a search warrant on Moore's home and vehicle and seized a gallon of liquid Phencyclidine (PCP) valued at \$77,000. Two handguns, including



a loaded .38 Special revolver, were also recovered.

Secondly, there is the identity of the suspect. Moore, 35, is well known in the D.C. area, having earned the nickname the "Teflon Defendant" for his ability to repeatedly avoid conviction on murder, drug and weapons charges. He was tried for four separate murders and acquitted each time, including a 1994 case for which he was tried four times, with each trial resulting in a hung jury. His story has been chronicled in both The Washington Post and the Washington City Paper.

Moore had been maintaining a residence on Sherman Avenue for several years. He also maintained a residence in the District of Columbia.

Despite his notoriety, Ricucci said that the Department had no idea that Moore was living in Takoma Park, nor did they have any reason to know.

"He had served his time, so there was no reason for us to be notified that he was living here," Ricucci said. "(Since living here) He had not come to our attention or generated any interest. We had received no complaints about him or the residence."

Ricucci said that while the Department had no idea about Moore's identity and exploits prior to the arrest, it quickly became apparent when they entered his home. (Officers responded to a burglary attempt, learned Moore lived at the targeted home, then did a follow-up investigation and obtained a search warrant.) During the search they found that Moore had saved the media profiles about himself onto computer discs.

Media outlets were also quick to make the connection. Before the Department could even issue a press release, the media were making inquiries.

Beyond the media attention over the suspect's identity and the circumstances of his arrest, Ricucci said the case illustrates a fundamental law enforcement message that he is always emphasizing: "There is no routine traffic stop. Police officers always have to be prepared," he said. "Every day brings something new and the officers always have to have their safety in mind."

While there is no guarantee of conviction, especially given the suspect's history, Ricucci is confident in the actions of his officers and praised the work of his Department.

A federal grand jury indicted Moore Oct. 20, on charges of possession with intent to distribute controlled substances, specifically cocaine and phencyclidine (PCP); possession of firearms in furtherance of a drug trafficking crime; and being a felon in

possession of guns and ammunition.

According to the four-count indictment, Moore possessed with intent to distribute powder cocaine; possessed with intent to distribute one kilogram or more of PCP; and possessed an Israel Weapon Industries, Model Desert Eagle, .44 caliber, semi-automatic pistol, a Smith & Wesson, Model 64-3, .38 caliber revolver and six rounds of .38 caliber ammunition. The indictment alleges that Moore had the guns for drug trafficking, and that he was prohibited from possessing the guns and ammunition due to a previous felony conviction.

Moore faces a maximum sentence of 20 years in prison for possession with intent to distribute cocaine; a minimum of 10 years and a maximum of life in prison for possession with intent to distribute one kilogram or more of PCP; five years in prison, consecutive to any other sentence imposed, for possession of a firearm in furtherance of a drug trafficking crime; and a maximum of 10 years in prison for being a felon in possession of guns and ammunition.

He will remain detained until his court date at the U.S. District Court in Greenbelt; his court date has not yet been scheduled.

United States Attorney Rod J. Rosenstein praised ATF, the Takoma Park Police Department, Montgomery County Police Department and the Montgomery County State's Attorney's Office for their work in the investigation.

Burglaries Continue, Prevention is Key

Takoma Park Police reported nine residential burglaries in October (by press time, Oct. 27), continuing a troubling uptick in burglaries over the past two or three months. The incidents occurred during the day or evening (until 11 p.m.), and criminals entered the homes through unlocked doors or windows, or by forcing or breaking doors or windows. Targeted items included laptops, cameras, Wii consoles, jewelry, televisions and radios.

The Takoma Park Police Department currently has a burglary task force in place to address these crimes; it includes a crime analyst, detectives and patrol officers. Investigations are ongoing.

The Police Department continues to advise residents to take care in securing their homes, and offers the following tips.

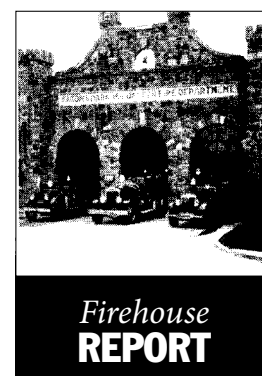
1. Call the police to report a crime or any suspicious activity. You have to be the eyes of your neighborhood. And remember you can always remain a pair of anonymous eyes! Report burglaries immediately
2. Do not touch anything or clean up until the police have inspected for evidence. If you have not checked your house, let the police check it for you. Leave the house and call the police.
3. Keep a list of serial numbers and/or receipts of all electronic equipment, i.e., televisions, stereos, cell phones, iPods, computers, as well as a list of items that are easily sold or pawned, i.e., jewelry, collectibles. Photographs or video tapes are always useful to keep a record of what you own (and insurance companies would also find this useful and convenient). Update your list periodically and do not leave it in the residence, if possible. Use an engraving pen to write your current driver's license number on your property. Burglars don't want marked merchandise.
4. Make it time-consuming for a burglar to break into your home—secure your residence! Sometimes install-

ing deadbolt locks on all exterior doors or windows will deter a criminal; they don't want to spend too much time in one place. Check and double-check that all doors and windows are shut and locked before you leave the house, even if you are leaving for a short period of time.

5. Display "Beware" signs. If you have a dog or an alarm system, put up signs that say you do. They do deter thieves.
6. When you leave your residence, do not leave valuables in plain sight. For instance, if your dining room table is within view of a window, don't leave a laptop computer sitting there. When possible, pull shades or curtains so that property cannot be seen from outside the residence.
7. Be one step ahead of the burglar—case your own home and look for easy ways into your home and then take appropriate measures to correct it.
8. A big problem in our city is citizens not calling the police. If you see someone suspicious who does not belong in your neighborhood, call the police. If you see a suspicious vehicle, call the police. Write down the license plates of any suspicious vehicles. Write down a description of any suspicious persons. You can never be too careful. A lack of information on suspects can hinder an investigation.
9. Burglars in most instances will case a neighborhood or the routine of residents. Every once in a while, leave at a different time. Change your routine to throw the burglar off. If you are not consistent, how can they be?
10. Burglars know where to look for hidden keys. Do not leave one.

You can also request a Security Home Survey where an officer will come out to your home and look around to find places he or she believes can be better secured. Please call Lt. Bowers at 301-891-7144 if you want to set up a Security Home Survey.

As of September 30, the Takoma Park Volunteer Fire Department and the personnel of the Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Service assigned to the Takoma Park station have responded to 626 fire-related incidents. The department addressed or assisted with 2,435 rescue or ambulance-related incidents, for a total of 3,061 this year. Totals for 2009 were 570 and 2,141 respectively, for a total of 2,711, representing an increase of 350 incidents.



BY JIM JARBOE

Change Your Clocks, Change Your Smoke Detectors

It's that time of the year. Daylight Savings time kicks in November 7, when residents should turn back their clocks one hour. At the same time, the fire department is requesting that you check all your smoke alarms to make sure they work. Be prepared in the event of a fire, have a working smoke alarm on all levels of your home. Also have a family escape plan.

Are Your House Numbers Big Enough?

During an emergency, time is of the essence. It can make the difference between life and death. Many times the fire department or ambulance is delayed in arriving at the scene of an emergency because the address numbers were poorly visible or missing. Back in 1982, the Montgomery County Council enacted the following in reference to address numbers: Numerals shall be a minimum of five inches in height for a single-family residence. Numerals shall be a minimum of six inches in height for commercial or multi-family structures. Address displays shall be posted on a contrasting background displayed in conspicuous place and in such a manner as to be unobstructed and clearly visible from the street named in the official address of the structure.

Fall Leaf Collection Program

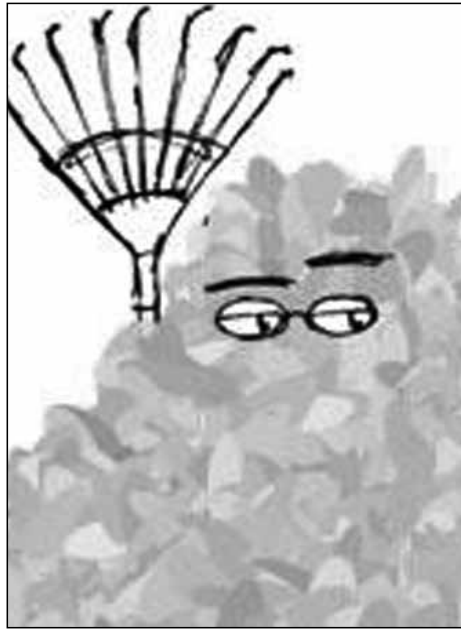
Loose leaf collection will be provided by the City from November 15 through December 22 this year. The program has been reduced to five weeks due to budget reductions. Residents can rake leaves to the curb at their convenience during the five week period. Most streets will not have an assigned collection day. The goal of the program is to collect leaf piles within two weeks of their appearance at the curb. Leaf collection is dependent on the weather, and rain and freezing conditions can slow collection. Bagged yard waste collection will continue to be offered by the City on Mondays throughout the year.

There are five streets that have an assigned collection date; they are state highways and have heavy traffic volume. Carroll Avenue, from the 7000 to 7800 block, Ethan Allen Avenue, and Flower Avenue, from the 7900 to 8600 block, will have collection on Monday, December 20. Piney Branch Road and Philadelphia Avenue will have collection on Friday, December 17. On these dates, only these streets will receive collection.

There will be no collection on the Thanksgiving holiday, which will be observed Thursday and Friday, November 25 and 26.

For the month of November, the crews will concentrate on picking up large piles of leaves. In December, when the crews are making the last collection on each street, they will thoroughly collect all remaining loose leaves from the gutter and grassy strip inside the curb.

The Public Works Department welcomes



your comments and suggestions about the service we are providing. Please contact Public Works by phone: 301-891-7633. You can also call the leaf collection hotline at 301-891-7626 to notify us when your leaves have been raked out. We plan to collect reported piles from the hotline calls within a week to 10 days of the call.

Please follow these guidelines:

1. Rake leaves into a pile at the edge of the curb. Do not rake leaves into the street. Leaf piles can create traffic hazards.
2. Do not park your car in front of a leaf pile and when raking please try to avoid piling leaves where cars are likely to be parked.
3. The vacuum leaf collection is for leaves only. Do not include branches, brush, vines, rocks or debris. These items can seriously damage equipment and delay

Leaf Collection Highlights

- Collection will occur continuously from November 15 to December 22.
- Residents can rake leaves at their convenience, there is no assigned collection day. (Except for the five state highways in the City which have assigned collection days)
- Place leaf piles inside the curb – not in the street.
- Do not put branches, brush, vines, rocks or other debris in the leaf piles.
- Vacuum leaf collection will end December 22, if weather has not delayed collection.
- Snow and freezing rain can significantly delay collection.
- Leaf Collection Hotline for reporting when your pile is at the curb, 301-891-7626.

collection.

4. Do not pile leaves near storm drain inlets. Leaves can block the drains and cause flooding problems.

The City also operates the weekly Monday collection for bagged grass, leaves, branches and brush all year long. The Monday collection requires leaves and loose yard materials to be in paper bags, trash cans or stiff-sided containers. Plastic bags cannot be used for yard material because these items are composted and the plastic interferes with the composting process. Branches must be less than four feet long and less than three inches in diameter and tied into small bundles or stacked in a trash can. The Monday yard waste collection is cancelled on weeks with a Monday holiday.



City TV Airs Auditorium Events

In November, City TV will be covering several events from the newly renovated Community Center Auditorium. First, it's a poetry reading on Thursday, Nov. 18 at 7:30 p.m., covered live and aired throughout the month. Participating poets in this installment of the monthly poetry series include Heather Banks, Freda Denis-Cooper, Stewart Hickman, Madona LeBlanc and Susan Okie.

Then at 8 p.m. on November 19 City TV will roll cameras on the Billy Coulter Band (see page 5 for details).

At 7:30 p.m. on Nov. 20 you can watch the musical performance organized by Hungry For Music, a local non-profit dedicated to providing free musical instruments to low-income children who are "hungry" to play. The event will feature a singer-songwriter tribute to Van Morrison, with local musicians Jerry Bresee, David Morreale, Karyn Oliver, Lisa Tayler and Doug Alan Wilcox.

The next episode of Snapshots, the series of video featurettes about life in Takoma Park, will present a view of the work of the City's Arts and Humanities Council; a walk with the walk-to-school program; a sampling of library programs such as Read-Out! and the Big Book Club; and the re-opening of the Fire Station.

Stay tuned also for new performances from this year's Jazz, Folk and Street Festivals.

If you are a non-profit or a community organization, you can advertise your activities in our bulletin board. Also, if you would like City TV to cover an event or add specific programming to its line-up, call 301-891-7118 or send an e-mail to cabletv@takomagov.org.

Do you have an idea for a production? Are you missing some type of programming you'd like City TV to add? Call us or send us an e-mail with your suggestions.

TASK FORCE

continued from page 1

measures in check. For example, a sustainability coordinator will likely be at least two years away from being considered, given recent lay-offs and salary freezes. Purchasing street lights from PEPCO is similarly out of reach for the time being. Partnering with other jurisdictions might make some measures possible, like trading in gas lawn mowers for electric (a program already up and running, sponsored by the state of Maryland). Other areas are beyond city control: levying a new tax for green improvements, for example.

Following are the 12 high priority recommendations, with staff and city council input. Council has not yet discussed the last three:

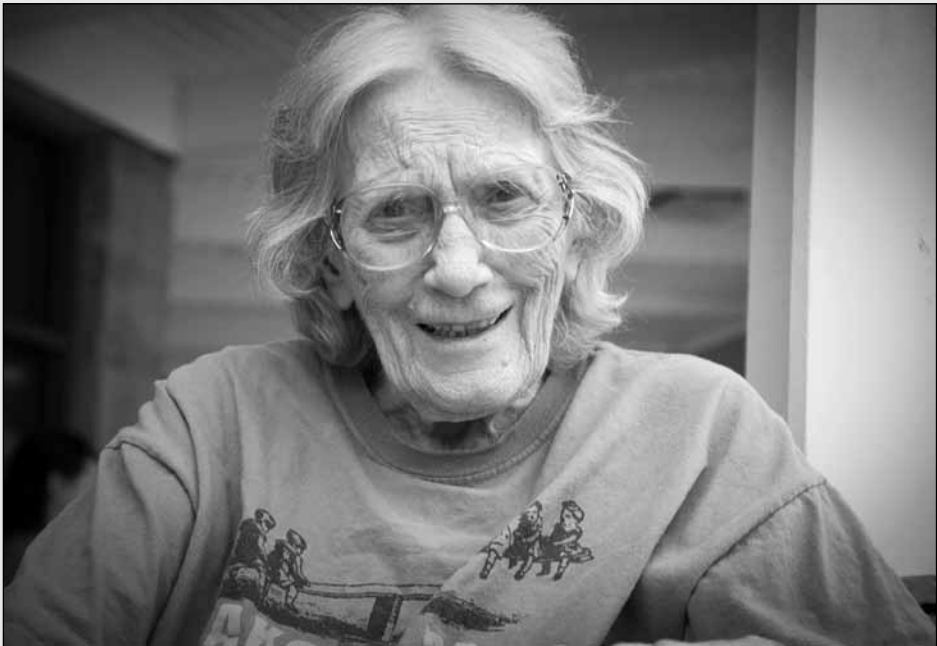
- Hire a sustainability coordinator
Council recognizes that budget constraints prevent this from occurring in the near future, but seems to favor such a position when it becomes more feasible.
- Commit budget resources to implement recommendations
This recommendation is related to the development of an implementation plan that staff indicates will be difficult to complete before spring. Council discussed getting more input from residents about how they want to spend their tax dollars.

- Reduce use of two-cycle and other gasoline-powered engines like lawn mowers through education and trade-in programs.
Council discussed a related item, banning gas-powered leaf blowers, and generally favored a moratorium on their use by city staff during summer. A state exchange program that allows residents to trade in gas mowers for electric ones could be promoted by the city.
- Establish energy efficiency rent increase petitions for landlords
Generally favored, though details need to be worked out.
- Inventory and monitor greenhouse gas emissions
It was agreed that having a starting point for measuring would be the first step, but could be a costly endeavor as pinpointing a way to measure GGE is difficult and could require expert consultants.
- Purchase and improve efficiency of streetlights
A good idea, Council agreed, but expensive, as PEPCO would require purchase and maintenance of new light fixtures and regulations surrounding work with the electrical system are substantial.
- Create a public/private partnership for shared energy efficiency upgrades
This is somewhat complicated by procurement rules the city must follow regarding competitive bids; staff (Public

Works Director Daryl Braithwaite) suggested that education about green energy providers might be the best option for individuals trying to upgrade energy efficiency. She also pointed out that the city currently purchases renewable energy credits to equal 100 percent of the city's electrical use.

- Plant more trees
Another area constrained by budget – purchasing more trees would be difficult at this time. Discounts have already been passed down to residents in the bulk buy program, which Braithwaite says has been popular.
- Continue to install storm water control devices to reduce runoff
The city already plans on continuing this practice, as storm drains call for repair and replacement.
- Improve traffic flow
- Pursue a public/private partnership for household organic waste collection
- Implement a fee for waste disposal so that householders pay more if they generate more trash

For a complete look at staff recommendations, go to the October 11 City Council meeting at takomaparkmd.gov/council. For the original report, see www.takomaparkmd.gov/committees/tfea/index.html.



Takoma Park Play Day

The second annual Takoma Park Play Day, September 25, drew hundreds of fun-loving residents for games that ranged from jump rope to tennis lessons, a dress-up parade, board games, dancing and floor hockey. From top, counter clockwise, Mary Feldman participated in board games inside the Middle School; dress-up was a big hit; sidewalk chalk artists found their muse; Gavin Ross plays four square; double Dutch girls show some skills; Builder Bee boxes stoke the imagination.



Photo essay by Selena Malott